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4.	16th and 17th January, 2005	Assam	Setting up of Gas Cracker Project, upgradation of it in 4 centres, upgradation of Doordarshan transmission, setting up of an IT park and SEZ, rural electrification, safe drinking water supply, telephone connection to all villages, setting up of nursing college, launching of North East Water Resources Authority (NEWRA).
5.	2nd December, 2006	Manipur	Up gradation of Regional Institute of Medical Science (RIMS) and Manipur Institute of Technology, improving connectivity, setting up of five hospitals and a convention centre at Imphal, Installation of night landing facilities at Imphal Airport, launching of Tipaimukh and Loktak downstream hydro electric projects.
6.	31st January, and 1st February, 2008	Arunachal Pradesh	Electrification of all houses, construction of green airport, helicopter service — Guwahati to Tawang, construction of Trans-Arunachal Highways, providing drinking water facility to all remote villages, assistance to flood-affected areas, construction of new secretariat building, construction of new railway lines, setting up of power projects and drinking water project at Itanagar
7.	25th and 26th August, 2008	Assam	Setting up of world-class University in Assam, Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Model School, assistance to setting up a centre of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, raising up two India reserve battalions, flood control measures, setting up of Science City in Guwahati, establishing a State level University of Science and Technology as well as a Law School and Judicial Academy and Promotion of Tourism.

GM trials

1897. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India finds it defensive in agricultural trade for permitting field trials across the country in a host of genetically modified food crops like rice, brinzal, okra, potato, tomato and groundnuts, *etc.*, thereby exposing conventional crops to the risk of transgenic contamination;

(b) if so, the safeguards for conducting GM trial in the country;

(c) in which crops GM trials are going on;

(d) whether some countries have imposed restriction on import of rice and groundnuts *etc.* from India;

(e) the kinds of GM variety of vegetables that are being grown in India and whether they have been tested; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No Sir. India is not on the defensive in agricultural trade due to field trials of genetically modified (GM) food crops. All field trials are conducted with biosafety precautions like physical and biological barriers as well as isolation distances as per Indian Minimum Seed Standards Certification to avoid the risk of transgenic contamination.

(c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has approved the conduct of field trials with GM brinjal, rice, okra, cauliflower, cabbage, tomato, potato, groundnut, and maize. The list of GM crop field trials is available at websites www.envfor.nic.in and *www.igmoris.nic.in*.

(d) No country has imposed ban on import of rice and/or groundnut from India as these crops have not been approved for commercial or trade purpose.

(e) and (f) No GM food crops/vegetables have been approved for commercial cultivation in India. However in accordance with the prevailing rules and guidelines, any company/institution involved in the development of GM crops has to undertake extensive biosafety assessment which includes environmental safety assessment as well as food and feed safety before the application for commercial release is considered by the GEAC.

Abundance of vehicles in Metro cities

†1898. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that abundance of vehicles in Metro cities is turning to be a major reason of pollution alongwith it is also neutralizing the whole traffic system;

(b) if so, the action Government is taking to regulate it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The abundance of vehicles in metro cities has been a major reason of vehicular pollution. The ever increasing population of vehicles especially in metro cities has been undermining to some extent the positive effects of various pollution control

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.